



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) – WEST

MONTHLY REPORT  
FEBRUARY 2015



*The Jez Abad CDC Constructed A 50-Meter Flood Protection Wall In Jez Abad Village Pashtun Zarghun. The Flood Protection Wall Safeguards 2000 Jeribs (494.2 Acres) Of Farmland From Being Flooded.*

March 2015

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by AECOM.

# STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) – WEST

## MONTHLY REPORT February 2015

**Contract number:**  
AID-306-C-12-00004

**Submitted to:**  
USAID Afghanistan

**Prepared by:**  
AECOM International Development

**DISCLAIMER:**

The authors' views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

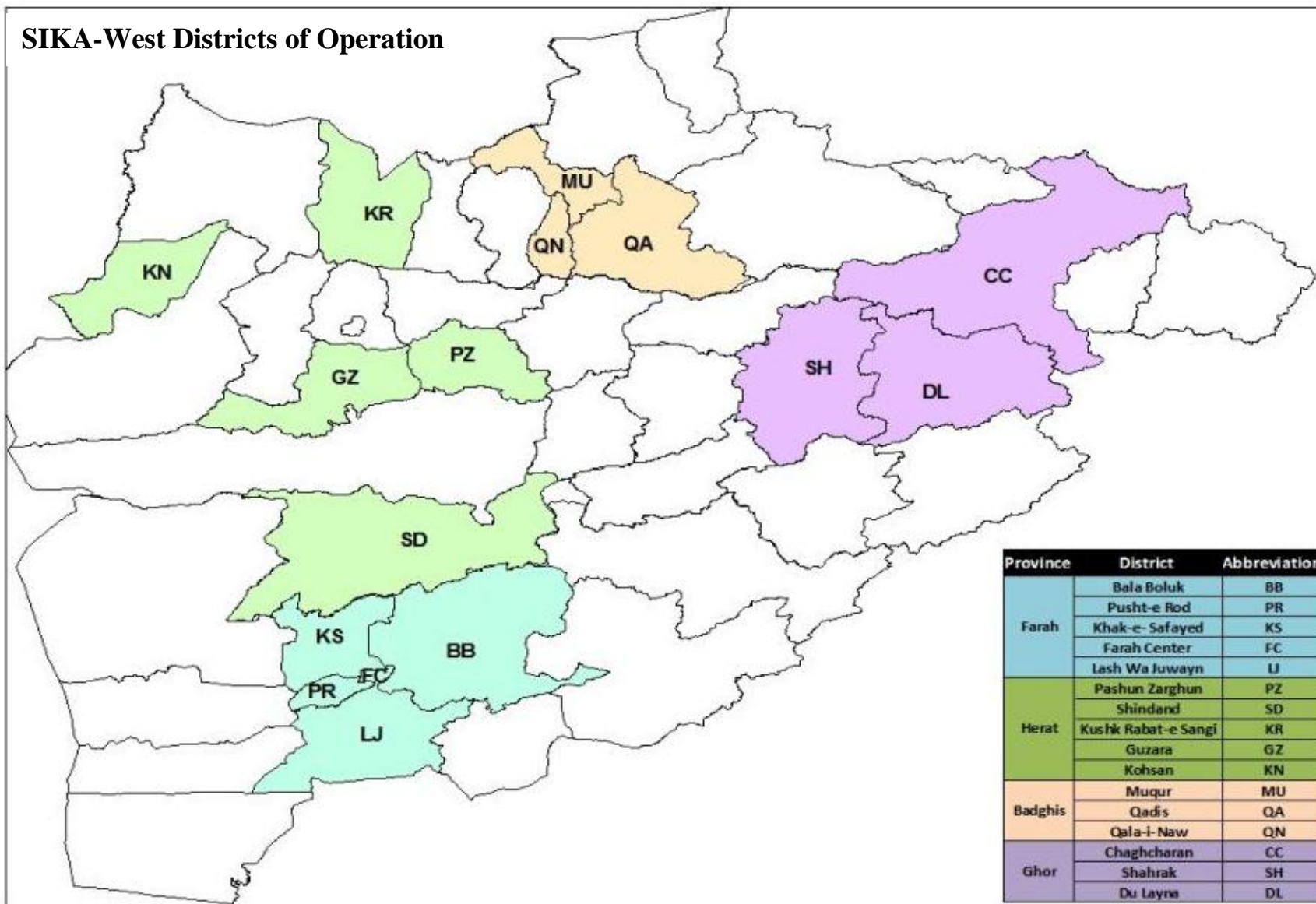
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acronyms .....	iii
Introduction.....	1
Summary of Achievements.....	1
Stabilization Programming .....	1
Communications and Public Outreach Programming.....	3
Community Development Programming .....	4
Governance Programming .....	6
Gender Mainstreaming Programming.....	7
Lessons Learned.....	10
Monitoring and Evaluation.....	10
Challenges.....	11
Deliverables .....	11

## ACRONYMS

AECOM	Architecture Engineering Consulting Operation Maintenance
CCI	Community Cohesion Initiative
CDC	Community Development Councils
COP	Chief of Party
CPOD	Communications & Public Outreach Department
DAIL	Department of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DDA	District Development Assembly
DDP	District Development Portfolio
DE	District Entities
DG	District Governor
DoLSA	Department of Labor and Social Affairs
DoWA	Department of Women's Affairs
DPP	District Project Portfolio
DRRD	Directorate of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
DSM	District Stability Matrix
DST	District Support Team
DSW	District Social Worker
GPS	Global Positioning System
GIRoA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
ICMA	International City/Country Management Association
IDLG	Independent Directorate of Local Governance
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IR	Intermediate Result
KSW	Komite Sobate Woleswali
MISTI	Measuring Impacts of Stabilization Intervention
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
OSC	Overseas Strategic Consulting
PST	Provincial Support Team
SAM	Stability Analysis Mechanism
SIKA	Stability in Key Areas
SPC	Service Providers Catalogue
TCRC	Tribal Conflict Resolution Committee
CRC	Conflict Resolution Committee
TOT	Training of Trainers
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

## SIKA-West Districts of Operation



## INTRODUCTION

**Program Profile:** The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) awarded AECOM International Development the Stability in Key Areas (SIKA) –West program, which began on January 29, 2012 and is scheduled to end on August 31, 2015. Led by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation & Development (MRRD) and the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG), the SIKA-West program is designed to promote stability in key areas by assisting provincial authorities and district-level government entities to improve governance programming and increase the provision of priority basic services; with the intended result of increasing citizen confidence in and support for, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA). During the initial 26-month Base Period, the SIKA-West program employed a phased provincial roll-out within the four provinces of Farah, Badghis, Herat, and Ghor, incorporating 10 target districts. In February 2014, the SIKA-West program entered its 18-month Option Period and extended its engagement to an additional six districts within these provinces, bringing the current total to 16.

**Area of Operation:** SIKA-West is active in the following provinces and districts:

- Farah Province: Farah Center, Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Khak-e-Safayd, and Lash Wa Juwayn Districts
- Herat Province: Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi, Guzara, and Kohsan Districts
- Badghis Province: Qadis, Muqur, and Qala-i-Naw Districts
- Ghor Province: Chaghcharan, Shahrak, and Du Layna Districts

## SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS

This report summarizes MRRD/IDLG SIKA-West program activities undertaken across all program departments during the month of January 2015. The report provides a programmatic overview and breakdown of activities by program focus, and outcome, detailing successes, challenges, and lessons learned. The report also highlights the leading role of the MRRD and IDLG partners with respect to both district and provincial programming.

### STABILIZATION PROGRAMMING

During this reporting period, 16 GIROA-led Komite Sobate Wolesswali (KSW) meetings were held (3 Female, 3 Male, and 10 Mixed).

SIKA-West has observed the continuation of independent female KSW meetings in Pusht-e Rod, Bala Boluk, and Lash Wa Juwayn Districts. These are continuing under the leadership of the Pusht-e Rod, Bala Boluk and Lash Wa Juwayn District Governments and Farah Department of Women's Affairs and no longer receive any logistical or financial support from SIKA-West. District women gathered to discuss and share their community problems; examples of issues discussed, include a lack of access to potable water in Massow Village, Pusht-e Rod District and shortage of educational facilities in Bala Boluk District. The respective District Governments pledged to share these concerns with third party donors and the Farah Provincial Government for further action.

The Governance Department handed over the male Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod and Lash Wa Juwayn and the mixed Farah Center, Qala-i-Naw, Qadis, Muqur, Chaghcharan, Pashtun Zarghun, Kohsan, Shindand, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi and Guzara KSWs to the respective Provincial and District Governments. The PGO's and DGO's expressed their appreciation to the MRRD/IDLG SIKA-West program for the past support and stated that moving forward the Komite Sobate Wolesswalis would be conducted without logistical or financial support from the program.

## List of the February 2015 Komite Sobate Wolesswali' Meetings

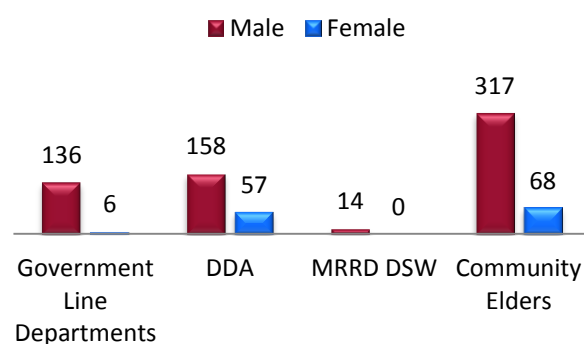
District	Province	Male/Female /Mixed	Location	Date of KSW's
Bala Boluk	Farah	Male	DG District Center Compound	February 10, 2015
Bala Boluk	Farah	Female**	District Center (Private Home)	February 06, 2015
Pusht-e Rod	Farah	Male	DG District Center Compound	February 04, 2015
Pusht-e Rod	Farah	Female**	District Center (Private Home)	February 3, 2015
Lash Wa Juwayn	Farah	Male	DG District Center Compound	February 16, 2015
Lash Wa Juwayn	Farah	Female**	District Center (Girls Primary School)	February 9, 2015
Farah Center	Farah	Mixed	PG Provincial Center Compound	February 08, 2015
Qala-i-Naw	Badghis	Mixed	PG Provincial Center Compound	February 09, 2015
Qadis	Badghis	Mixed	DAIL District Center Agriculture Hall	February 21, 2015
Muqur	Badghis	Mixed	DG District Center Compound	February 18, 2015
Chaghcharan	Ghor	Mixed	Provincial Center (PGO)	February 10, 2015
Pashtun Zarghun	Herat	Mixed	DG District Center Compound	February 04, 2015
Kohsan	Herat	Mixed	District Center (Goharshad Hall)	February 17, 2015
Shindand	Herat	Mixed	DG District Center Compound	February 08, 2015
Kushk-e-Robat Sangi	Herat	Mixed	DG District Center Compound	February 11, 2015
Guzara	Herat	Mixed	District Center (DDA Hall)	February 22, 2015

\*There were no Komite Sobate Wolesswali's held in Khak-e-Safed, Shahrak and Du Layna Districts during the months of February for the following reasons; a) Khak-e-Safed programming has been suspended since April 2014 due to the destruction of the Khak-e-Safed DGO; b) Winter conditions in Shahrak and Du Layna Districts prevented KSW's from taking place.

\*\* The Female KSWs were conducted independently and without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West.

The purpose of the Komite Sobate Wolesswali is to provide a forum for district residents and sub-national government entities to discuss current problems and grievances affecting residents within the districts and where government-led actions can address and mitigate these grievances. Participants in these KSWs included Provincial & District Governors & Line Department representatives (136 males, 6 females), District Development Assemblies (DDAs) (158 males, 57 females), MRRD District Social Workers (DSWs) (14 males), and community elders (317 males, 68 females).

## Komite Sobate Wolesswali Participants





### **Examples of Major Problems Addressed By GIRoA Utilizing Existing Resources & Third Party Donors:**

- (a) The Lash Wa Juwayn Female KSW successfully lobbied the District Government to provide ‘Teaching Methodology Training’ to female teachers in Lash Wa Juwayn District. With the support of the District Government, the Farah Provincial Education Department conducted an eight-day “Teaching Methodology Workshop” for 36 female teachers in Lash Wa Juwayn District from February 8-16 without financial or logistical support from SIKA-West
- (b) In Qala-i-Naw, during the mixed KSW meeting on February 9, Mr. Mohammad Ibrahim, the Badghis Provincial Hospital Head, reported that the Provincial Health Department lacks a sufficient budget to hire enough doctors and provide required services to patients. He requested the local government to focus on this issue and support the Provincial Health Department. Mr. Qazi Abdul Rahim, a Parliament Member who also attended in this meeting, pledged to share this issue with the Parliament and advocate for the Provincial Health Department’s needs.

In order to assess the impact of Stabilization Programming, during this month community gatherings were conducted with CDCs in Chaghcharan, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Lash Wa Juwayn, and Farah Center. The CDC’s were asked to provide their views on the Stabilization Programming and whether GIRoA has played an active role in addressing identified grievances. In Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, the Torghundi Sharqi CDC noted that their local government supported the rehabilitation of their irrigation canal, which prevents water loss and ensures that irrigation water reaches all 1000 Jeribs (494.2 acres) of farmland; the Khowja Talkhatan CDC highlighted that their local government invested in their village school, providing a much better educational environment for students. School authorities have reported an increase of 200 students (80 boys & 120 girls) since the rehabilitation was completed; and now enroll 500 students (300 girls, 200 boys). In Lash Wa Juwayn and Farah Center, the Koh Gah, Kosha, Qouch, Damboly Ha, Dar Abad, Korgh Zard, Sheikh Abad, Shor Abad, and Tawesk Bala CDCs commented on the positive role played by the local government in addressing agricultural infrastructure needs, improving access to the Provincial/District Center, and providing a better educational environment for students (235 boys, 198 girls).

### **COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMMING**

On February 28, the SIKA-West Communications & Public Outreach programming ended in Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod (Farah Province); Shindand, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Pashtun Zarghun, Kohsan (Herat Province); Chaghcharan (Ghor Province); Muqur, Qadis and Qala-i-Naw (Badghis Province). Program materials are currently being organized and filed in preparation for handover to our MRRD & IDLG national, provincial and district partners, in accordance with the IDLG & MRRD approved Transition Working Group (TWG) guidelines.

In line with the TWG, the SIKA-West Communications & Public Outreach Department handed over complete responsibility for the District Government Hotlines to the Kohsan, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, and Pashtun Zarghun District Government Offices (DGO’s) between February 24 & 25 respectively. These Hotlines will now be independently managed and funded by IDLG. In addition, copies of the Pashtun Zarghun, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi and Kohsan District Profiles, Herat Province Service Provider Catalog & Communications & Public Outreach Training Materials were handed over. Our IDLG partners at the district level thanked the SIKA-West Program for their past support and highlighted that the communications and public outreach programming had improved the two-way communication between the local government and district residents. *“The SIKA-West Communications & Public Outreach Department was successful in improving communications between residents and local government. We will continue this good work,”* Shindand District Governor, Mr. Faramarz Samandar.

During this reporting period, District Government personnel completed eight Communications & Public Outreach activities outlined in their respective IDLG approved District Communications Plans in Pusht-e Rod, Bala Boluk, Shindand, Lash Wa Juwayn, Kohsan, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi and Pashtun Zarghun Districts. Below are the highlights of these activities:



- On February 4, with support of the Communications & Public Outreach Department and in-line with the Bala Boluk District Government Communications Plan, 12 district farmers (men) met with the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (DAIL) and advocated for support to address pests and plant diseases. Training and material support were provided by DAIL. This support was provided without any financial or logistical support from SIKa-West.
- The Shindand District Governor, Mr. Faramarz Samandar, organized a coordination meeting with line-departments on February 8. As part of the efforts to make the district green, the DAIL agreed to provide free saplings to farmers. Another issue discussed was the public transportation fares from Herat City to Shindand District; although there was a decrease in the fuel cost. It was agreed to reduce the transportation fares from 200AFN to 150 AFN.
- As a direct result of advocacy training provided by the Communications & Public Outreach Department, the Massow Barakzai CDC (Pusht-e Rod District) successfully lobbied the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to provide the community with water pumps in order to address shortfalls with their potable water supplies. The community successfully prepared their own Concept Note, outlining their need for water pumps and submitted this to ICRC on August 28, 2014. ICRC responded by providing technical training to the community and how to install and maintain water pumps. On February 16, 2015, the Massow Barakzai CDC received 16 hand water pumps, which were put to immediate use. *“We are happy that we could provide potable water for residents, now we are able to address our community’s needs,”* Mr. Sharafudin, CDC Chairman.



**The Massow Barakzai CDC Advocated For Their Community Need And Received 16 Hand Water Pumps From The International Committee Of Red Cross.**

#### **Examples of Communication & Public Outreach Supported District Government Hotlines**

- a) On February 5, a resident of Harot village in Lash Wa Juwayn District, Farah Province called the District Government Hotline and complained against his neighbor; claiming his camels destroyed his crops. The District Governor invited both parties to the DGO on February 7 to discuss and resolve this issue. It was agreed that both parties would keep their animals away from agricultural lands.
- b) On February 20, a resident of Qasaba village in Shindand District, Herat Province complained about the high price of electricity that is being provided by a private company. He requested that the DGO advocate for a fair price. The District Governor will follow up on this issue with the company.
- c) On February 18, a resident of Tapa- Shiran village in Pusht-e Rod District, Farah Province complained that his neighbor is preventing him from selling his land to anyone except him. The District Governor invited both parties to the DGO on February 19 to discuss and resolve this issue. Both parties agreed that the price the neighbor was offering was fair and the resident agreed to sell his land to his neighbor.
- d) On February 22, a resident of Eidgah village in Qala-i-Naw, Badghis Province complained about corruption and nepotism in both governmental and non-governmental organizations. The caller was informed by the PGO that the government is seriously working on these issues and that the corruption will take some time to eradicate.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING

To date CDC's and DDA's in our target districts within Herat, Badghis, Ghor and Farah provinces successfully completed 265 grant funded projects which have been identified, awarded and monitored by our respective District Government and Provincial DRRD partners. These 265 grant funded projects are valued at \$4,658,550 (Actual USD\$ Spent) and include varied projects such as a) Rehabilitation of Irrigation Canals b) Road Rehabilitation & Graveling c) Culvert Construction d) School Rehabilitation e) Gabion & Stone Masonry Flood Protection Wall Construction etc. Implemented and managed by CDC's and DDA's under Fixed Obligation Grant mechanisms, these projects are designed to support GIROA partners (IDLG & MRRD) to address current district community grievances and reflect responsiveness in the provision of critical services. Currently CDC's and DDA's are implementing 201 grant funded projects valued at USD\$4,976,610 (Utilizing AFN50-58 Exchange Rate for Actual Amounts Spent & Pending MS Payments) (See Chart 1 & 2) and 62 pending projects valued at USD\$763,516 (Utilizing Exchange Rate AFN50- USD\$1.00) are under development.

Chart 1: Number of ongoing & completed projects

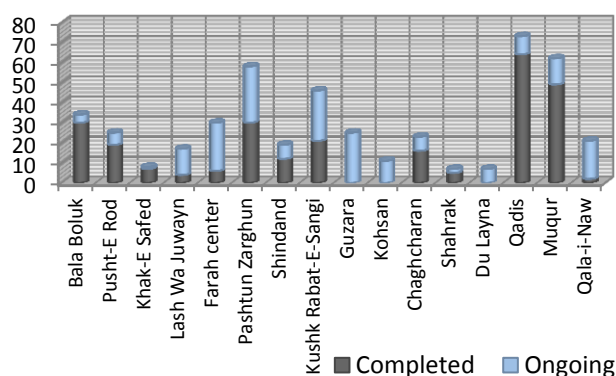
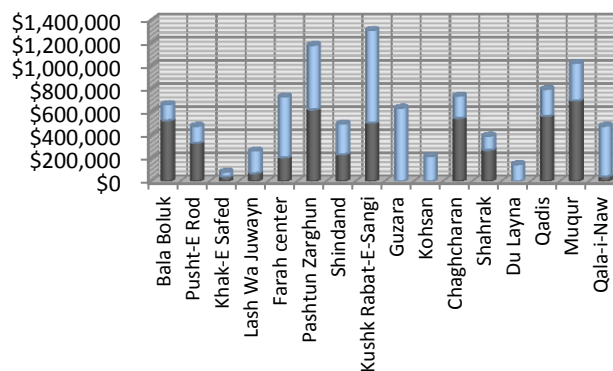


Chart 2: Value of ongoing & completed projects



During this reporting period, Project Management Training (PMT) was held for 30 members (26 males, 4 females) of seven CDC Grantees in Qala-i-Naw, Pashtun Zarghun, and Guzara. Led by the respective DRRD District Social Workers, DRRD Engineers and DGO personnel ( District Executive Managers, Technical & Sectorial Managers), these Project Management Trainings covered all aspects of the grant award, community mobilization requirements, engineering requirements, procurement processes etc. After the successful completion of this Project Management Training, the CDC Grantees were awarded their 1<sup>st</sup> Milestone Payments.

### Examples of Completed Grant Funded Projects Approved & Handed Over To GIROA

- On February 2, the Mahal Shahi CDC in Pashtun Zarghun successfully completed the construction of a super passage which controls and channels the seasonal flood waters, protects both homes and agricultural farmland on the left and right banks and provides sufficient water for 140 Jeribs (96.1 acres) of farmland.
- The Tawesk Bala CDC, with oversight and technical support from the Farah DRRD, successfully constructed a 60-meter Water Intake in Towsak village on February 2; delivering sufficient water from the river to 22,000 Jeribs (10,872.6 acres) of farmland, reducing water loss and supporting 985 families (5910 people) to cultivate their lands.
- Led by the Badghis DRRD and the District Government, Project Completion Ceremonies were held for two completed projects in Qala-Naw (47-Meter Flood Protection Wall & 110-Meter Flood Protection Wall): one project in Muqur (220-Meter Flood Protection Wall in Naw Abad Village). The completed Flood Protection Walls will safeguard 866 homes, 108 Jeribs (53.3 acres) of farmland and four existing culverts from being flooded.
- Led by the Badghis DRRD and the Qadis District Government, Project Completion Ceremonies were held for two completed projects in Qadis District on February 16. These included a Wash

Culvert in Haji Mohammad Ali Khan Village and 5 Culverts in Haji Ata Mohammad Village. The completed culverts will improve access for 3000 families to the District Center. The DRRD Director, Mr. Sayed Rasol Akbari, expressed his appreciation to the MRRD/IDLG SIKA-West program, stating *“Local Government will bring more development projects to your communities,”*

- With oversight and technical support from the Pashtun Zarghun District Government and Herat DRRD, the Gaja Community Development Council successfully completed the construction of a water reservoir with a capacity of 2000-m<sup>3</sup> in Gaja village on February 12. This reservoir provides sufficient irrigation water for 10,000 Jeribs (4942.1 acres) of farmland reduces water loss and supports 320 farmers to remain on the land.



**The Gaja Community Development Council Successfully Completed The Construction Of A Water Reservoir With A Capacity Of 2000-M3 In Gaja Village On February 12; Providing Sufficient Irrigation Water For 10,000 Jeribs (4942.1 Acres) Of Farmland.**

## GOVERNANCE PROGRAMMING

During this reporting period, the SIKA-West Governance Department continued mentoring Provincial and District Government personnel within our target districts, utilizing the IDLG approved District Governance Training Plan and subject matter.

On February 28, SIKA-West Governance Programming ended in our target districts (Khak-e-Safayd, Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Farah Center, Lash Wa Juwayn, Shindand, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Pashtun Zarghun, Kohsan, Shahrak, Chaghcharan, Muqur, Qadis, and Qala-i-Naw). Program materials are currently being organized and filed in preparation for handover to our MRRD & IDLG national, provincial and district partners, in accordance with the Transition Working Group guidelines.

### Examples of IDLG Approved Governance Programming

- In-line with the IDLG District Governance Training Plan, the Governance Department conducted ‘Procurement & Financial Management’ workshops for 96 (male) governmental staff in Qadis, Qala-i-Naw, Muqur, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, and Kohsan between February 4 and 17. Participants learned about procurement procedures, financial planning, and budgeting.
- In-line with the IDLG District Governance Training Plan a ‘Work Plan Development’ Workshop was conducted in Pashtun Zarghun District for 14 (male) government personnel from February 9-10. Subject matter included; Annual Work Plan, Development,



**Good Governance Training Was Provided To 22 (14 Females, 8 Males) Government Personnel In Farah Province On February 11.**



Strategic Planning & Procurement Practices. This workshop is designed to improve the performance of government personnel in their administrative functions.

- In-line with the IDLG District Governance Training Plan, with support from the Governance Department, the Qadis District Agriculture Department provided ‘Orchard Extension’ training focusing on sapling planting techniques to 15 farmers (male) on February 1. Farmers learned proper techniques of sapling planting and management.
- The Governance Department conducted an IDLG approved “Good Governance Training” to 22 (14 Female, 8 Male) Farah Provincial Government personnel on February 11 in Farah Provincial Center. Topics included the Importance & Characteristics of Good Governance, Definition & Principles.
- In line with the IDLG approved District Governance Training Plan, the “Administration & Management” courses in Chaghcharan (Start Date: Oct 29, 2014 for 78 female government staff and recent university graduates) and Badghis (Start Date: Jan 6, 2015 for 60 (45 males, 15 females) government staff) were completed on Feb 28, 2015. These trainings were designed to improve government staff administrative skill sets. *“We do not have enough female staff in governmental line-departments. You, the female graduates, can fill this gap,”* Mr. Mohammad Amin Tokhi, Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor.

## GENDER MAINSTREAMING UNIT

The Gender Department is responsible for the integration of gender across all program activities, targeting gender awareness initiatives and training programs, improving women’s access to DEs, and creating space for female voices and participation. Below is a summary of the Gender Mainstreaming Unit achievements:

On February 28, SIKA-West Gender Programing ended in our target districts (Khak-e-Safayd, Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Farah Center, Lash Wa Juwayn (Farah Province); Guzara, Shindand, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Pashtun Zarghun, Kohsan (Herat Province); Shahrak, Chaghcharan, Du Layna (Ghor Province); Muqur, Qadis and Qala-i-Naw (Badghis Province). Program materials are currently being organized and filed in preparation for handover to our MRRD & IDLG national, provincial and district partners, in accordance with the Transition Working Group guidelines.

- On February 12, the Gender Mainstreaming Unit organized a ‘Lessons Learned and Coordination Workshop’ with participation of the Farah DOWA Legal Manager, Farah DRRD Deputy Director, IDLG Gender Specialist, Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Lash Wa Juwayn District Governors and representatives from the Bala Boluk and Pusht-e Rod District Government Female Conflict Resolution Committees.’ The participants discussed the impact of the SIKA-West Gender Programming in Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, and Lash Wa Juwayn Districts. Participants highlighted improvements in communication between district governments and female residents, where female concerns are now being listened to and actions taken by the local government to address those needs. It was agreed that the Female KSW members played an active role in addressing female residents’ concerns and provided a public platform to discuss current community problems.
- With support of the Farah Gender Working Group (GWG) and the Department of Women’s Affairs, for the



**Ms. Mah Gul, One Of The Students Taking The Driving License Test In Farah Province.**

first time 70 women attended a driving course in Farah Province. The GWG and DOWA collaboratively lobbied with the Traffic Department to organize driving training sessions for women. The DoWA Executive Manager reported that all 70 women successfully passed the theory test and 35 women passed both the theory and practical tests and obtained driving license. The remaining women who failed at the practical test will attend the second round of the practical test, which will be organized by the Traffic Department on/around April 2015.

- On February 24, the Farah Department of Women's Affairs (DoWA) independently organized and led the Farah Gender Working Group (GWG) meeting with the participation of 38 (23 females, 15 males) representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations. Each sub-committee of the GWG reported their last month activities and plans. The Economic Sub-Committee reported that they identified 100 businesswomen (textile and dairy producers) and is working to provide them with Business Permits and linking them with both national and international markets. The Economic Sub-Committee will select four female textile producers to attend the Herat Province Women Handicraft Exhibition scheduled for March 10 & 11. The GWG members agreed to establish an official bank account and lobby both government and non-governmental organizations to financially support the GWG activities. Ms. Zobaida, the Deputy of the MRRD/National Solidarity Program (NSP) in Farah Province, pledged to allocate some portion of the NSP gender-related funds to the GWG and lobby with other organizations for further support. This report reflects the continued sustainability of the Farah Gender Working Group, without financial or logistical support from SIKA-West.

**The below table shows the SIKA-West's progress towards achieving Performance Management Plan (PMP) indicator targets:**

Indicator Name and Number	Target Year 1	Target Year 2	Target Year 3	Feb 2015 Result	Cumulative Total
S1: Number of sub-national government entities receiving USG assistance to improve their performance	42	110	360	38	805
S2: Percent of Afghans reporting that their district government is responsive to the needs of local people	NA	TBD	60%	62%	62%
S3: Number of District Entities with USG assistance for citizens to engage their subnational government	NA	233	75	38	857
S4: Number of activities with community contribution	72	201	100	26	267
S5: Number of Afghans Trained (see indicators 2.3, 3.3, 4.4)	NA	5,272	5,000	595 (515 Males) (80 Females)	1,2187 (9,727 Males) (2460 Females)
S6: Number of Persons Employed by stabilization program activities	NA	479	1,000	1164 (Males)	7,038 (6998 Males) (40 Females)
S7: Number of person-days of employment created	9,000	11,340	30,000	28323 (Males)	176,544 (172,906 Males) (3,638 Females)
S8: Number of stabilization activities implemented through grants to district entities (see indicator 4.3)	72	201	75	26	267
S9: Number of SOIs against which stabilization activities have been executed	NA	12	7	0	22

Indicator Name and Number	Target Year 1	Target Year 2	Target Year 3	Feb 2015 Result	Cumulative Total
SI0: Number of stabilization Work Sessions Conducted for district entities (see indicator 1.2)	88	105	130	13 <sup>1</sup>	284
SI1: Number of Districts in which SAM is utilized to develop programs (see indicator 1.2)	7	10	16	13	16
SI2: Number of GIRoA Officials trained in aspects of government administration (See indicators 2.3 and 3.3)	NA	323	100	272 (226 Males) (46 Females)	1,459 (1,320 Males) (139 Females)
SI3: Number of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources and basic services. (assets, credit, income or employment)	NA	1,525	100	50	3,003
SI4: Number of interventions that increased participation of women in district entity activities (KSWs)	27	36	100	2	173
1.1 Number of partnered District governments (and % of total) that show improved understanding of local Sources of Instability.	10	10	16	16	100% 16/16
1.2 Number of Stabilization work sessions conducted with district entities.	88	100	130	13	284
1.3 Number of Activities included in District Project Portfolios as a result of stabilization workshops	70	240	75	0	630
2.1 Number of District Entities able to access stabilization services provided by GIRoA organizations/line departments	NA	TBD	16	13	16
2.2 Number of SOI mitigating activities that are implemented in collaboration with providers identified in the Service Providers Catalogue	7	10	5	2	17
2.3 Number of people trained on Service Provider Catalog usage	NA	TBD	100	19 (Males)	986 (907 Males) (79 Females)
3.1 Number of people (percentage) reporting improvement in the responsiveness of GIRoA district entities with regards to SOI resolution	NA	TBD	65%	64%	64%
3.2 Number of public outreach and/or public consultation activities conducted by DEs with USG assistance	9	16	24	8	53 <sup>1</sup>
3.3 Number of people trained in communications and outreach	300	1,291	500	3 (Males)	3,221 (2,630 Males) (592 Females)

<sup>1</sup> - During the month, 16 KSWs were organized but the Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod and Lash Wa Juwayn Female KSWs were held independently and without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West, therefore; they are not counted for this indicator.

Indicator Name and Number	Target Year 1	Target Year 2	Target Year 3	Feb 2015 Result	Cumulative Total
3.4 Number of PA's and DEs with a communication strategy or plan in place.	9	8	15	0	27
4.1 Percentage of people reporting improvement in service delivery by DEs and PAs.	NA	NA	60%	65%	65%
4.2 Number of person days of employment created through SIKA-West interventions.	9,000	46,800	30,000	28323 (Males)	176,544 (172,906 Males) (3,638 Females)
4.3 Number of grant activities completed in support of stabilization goals	72	120	75	26	267
4.4 Number of person-days of training implemented through grants.	280	9,600	3,000	0	104,530 (34,043 Males) (70,487 Females)

## LESSONS LEARNED

- SIKA-West Community Development Department (CDD) has noticed that most of the CDCs work quality for road rehabilitation in Farah Province was poor due to lack of a unique proper gravel source in the area; therefore, CDD trained all CDCs having Road Rehabilitation projects on the correct mix of the existing gravel with screened gravel (ratio of 1:1) to obtain a proper mix to ensure good quality road projects at the end. A Province wide training program for all implementing CDCs has been launched.

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- During this reporting period, District Government Office (DGO) personnel, DRRD District Social Workers (DSWs), M&E personnel and Engineers organized 399 project site visits prior to the approval of the next round of milestone payments for CDCs & DDA's in Herat, Badghis, Farah, and Ghor Provinces. These visits uncovered deficiencies that were in need of correction. For example, the Kabotar Qal CDC in Kushk-e Rabat Sangi was advised to use crushed stones instead of river stones for their Flood Protection Wall project. In other cases, the Gina Kan CDC in Farah Center who are constructing a School Surrounding Wall were mentored on how to mix mortar properly and the Mahal Tank Tel Islam Qala CDC who are Rehabilitating The Islam Qala High School were advised to correct the size of the columns for the surrounding wall based on the project drawing.
- The Qadis, Pusht-e Rod, Lash Wa Juwayn, and Kushk Rabat-e Sangi Government Personnel used the District Government Hotline Numbers and called to 15 CDCs requesting updates on the progress of their projects. For example, the Kushk-e Rabat Sangi Executive Manager called the Rabat Mirza CDC who is implementing a 220-meter Canal Project; the CDC reported they suspended the work due to cold weather. The Lash Wa Juwayn District Governor called the Kosha CDC who is implementing a School Surrounding Wall construction project; the CDC completed the project and are waiting to receive their last milestone payment. This request was referred to SIKA-West who followed up and confirmed that the CDC implemented the project in accordance with the project specifications and the last milestone was disbursed on February 25.



- Monitoring and Evaluation training was provided to 24 (males) Chaghcharan, Lash Wa Juwayn, Qadis, Muqur, Kohsan, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi and Qala-i-Naw DRRD DSWs and Government Personnel focusing on Project Site Photography, Measurement Tools and Report Writing to improve the capacity of government staff to conduct independent project site inspections. The training has improved the quality of both the monitoring reports and photos that are used for processing milestone payments and close out reports. The same training was provided to 30 (females) government staff and recent university graduates during the three-month “Administration & Management” training courses in Chaghcharan.



***The Kushk-E Rabat Sangi DSW Inspecting Work Progress Of 110-Meter Flood Protection Wall & 110-Meter Gabion Mattress In Khalifa Rahmat Ulia Village, Kushk-E Rabat Sangi District. It Was Observed That Some Gabion Boxes Were Weaved Poorly And River Stones Were Used Instead Of Crushed Stones. The CDC Was Advised To Correct These Deficiencies.***

## CHALLENGES

- Due to heavy snow, the Community Development Department could not conduct project site visits for the Mar Abad High School Rehabilitation including construction of 367-ML Surrounding Wall and one Culvert Construction Project in Nahr Nawab village, Pashtun Zarghun District, Flood Protection Walls (a 100 ML Wall in Khowja Jer and an 80ML Wall in Markaz Wolesswali villages) in Kushk-e Rabat Sangi and a 52ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall in Baghlar village in Qala-i-Naw, which resulted in delays in processing scheduled project milestone payments.
- SIKA-West suspended milestone payments for four road rehabilitation projects in Farah Center due to existing project deficiencies, which were in need of correction such as poor drainage systems and low quality gravel used. SIKA-West Engineers from Herat HQ Office traveled to Farah and inspected the projects and advised the implementing CDCs (Dar Abad Bala, Bagh Kafi, Naw Abad Sang-e Zor, and Rahim Abad) to correct the deficiencies. The CDCs corrected these project deficiencies by improving the drainage networks in line with the technical specification and procured better quality gravel. The projects are ongoing.
- Due to current insecurity within the district, preventing our staff from working safely within the Bala Boluk District Government Office, SIKA-West District personnel continue to work from the Farah Provincial Office and will remain there until the security conditions improve.
- SIKA-West is still waiting on written instructions from the IDLG SIKA Unit to their respective Provincial and District Government offices, informing them of their responsibility to maintain and operate the District Government Hotlines and collaborate with MRRD/NABDP on the integration of the Komite Sobate Wolesswalis', to ensure sustainability, in-line with the IDLG & MRRD approved Transitional Working Guidelines

## DELIVERABLES

As per the SIKA-West contractual deliverables, the following documents were submitted to USAID:

- January 2014 Monthly Report
- Weekly Reports

**U.S. Agency for International Development/Afghanistan**  
**[www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov)**